

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/052,087

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are presently pending in the application, with claims 1-16, 18-36, and 38-51 having been rejected and claims 17 and 37 having been objected to. However, the examiner stated that claims 17 and 37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Further examination and reconsideration respectfully are requested.

Examiner's Acceptance of the Drawings

Applicants are appreciative of the examiner's review and acceptance of the drawings filed on January 17, 2002.

*Status of Examiner's Consideration of
Applicants' Information Disclosure Statements*

Applicants are appreciative of the examiner's acknowledgement of the references cited in applicants' Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 11, 2002.

Explanation of the Amendment

The Amendment cancels all rejected claims without prejudice to their being reintroduced in a continuing application. The amendment also rewrites objected-to claim 17 in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 1 and the sole intervening claim 16. The amendment also rewrites objected-to claim 37 in independent form to include all of the limitations of base claim 18 and the sole intervening claim 36.

Remarks

Having canceled all rejected claims and having rewritten the objected-to claims 17 and 37 in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, applicants have placed the present application in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment, and favorable reconsideration and the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

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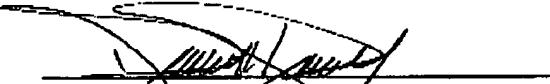
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the undersigned at (952) 253-4135.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
Customer No. 22865

Date: May 4, 2005

By:


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DHC/mar